

Induction of Akash, Nag and Trishul Missiles

***111. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cost escalation and delays in development of Akash, Nag and Trishul missiles;

(b) how many successful tests of these missiles have been conducted so far, giving the year-wise details for each missile;

(c) why these systems have not been inducted into the armed forces, despite many successful tests;

(d) by when these systems are likely to be inducted; and

(e) what alternative measures have been taken to discount adverse impact on the combat preparedness of defence forces, due to delay in induction of these missile systems?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) The sanctioned cost for the development of Akash, Nag and Trishul missiles, in 1983, was Rs. 142 crore and the same was enhanced to Rs. 1112 crore in 2006. Initially, the Probable Date of Completion (PDC) was July, 1995 which has been extended to December, 2007. Delay is mainly due to extra time required to develop and realize the state-of-the-art technologies required for Akash, Nag and Trishul missile systems.

(b) So far about 50 tests for Trishul missile and 40 each for Akash and Nag missile have been carried out proving various subsystems and integrated systems.

(c) and (d) Akash and Nag missile system are ready for users' trial after which they will enter into production and induction phase. Development of Trishul missile has also been completed. Air Force configuration has met the user requirements during its various developmental flight trials. DRDO is in dialogue with Air Force for possible induction after jointly developing the user trial criteria.

(e) There have been no adverse impact on the combat preparedness of defence forces due to delay in induction of these missile systems.

Whenever, the requirements has been felt by defence forces in meeting the operational requirement, systems have been acquired, where indigenous system are not available.

Adverse effect of cheap imports

†*112. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian industry is experiencing an adverse effect, following sale at cheaper rates of the goods imported from China and other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken or contemplate to take any action to impose ban on goods imported from other countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) As a member of the WTO, it is not open to any country to impose a ban on goods imported from other countries. Any domestic concern arising out of imports are addressed by appropriate action under the provisions of the Agreement on Implementation of Article VI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 1994, the Agreement on Safeguards and the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.